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August 3, 2001

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Patent Dept.

returned by
Smith & Nephew -
Gupta is not an
employee

Mr. Harsh Gupta
Smith & Nephew Inc.
2925 Appling Road
Memphis, TN 38133

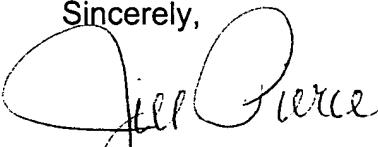
Re: U.S. Patent Application for "Hanger Bar Assembly"
Inventors: Cong Thahn Dinh, Harsh Gupta & Mark Drane
T&B Reference No.: T&B 1632

Dear Mr. Gupta:

This is a follow-up to my correspondence of June 5th, June 18th and July 13th. I have not received a response to my letter. We really need those papers signed and returned as soon as possible in order to keep this application from going abandoned.

If there is a problem or if you have any questions, **please** do not hesitate to contact me at 252-5985. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jill Pierce
Administrator of Patents & Trademarks